

A monthly newsletter for the citizens of the City of Rockville



Blues Traveler will play in Town Center on Sunday night, May 28.

## Rockville ‘Hooks’ Blues Traveler For Hometown Holidays Sunday Concert

No need to ‘run-around’ looking for great outdoor live music on Memorial Day weekend. The Grammy Award-winning group “Blues Traveler” will play in Rockville Town Center as part of the 18th annual Hometown Holidays Memorial Day Celebration on May 27-29.

Those who typically gather in Rockville Town Center on Saturday night of Hometown Holidays weekend to see the free headline acts should note that Blues Traveler will perform live in the same location, but on Sunday, May 28. Saturday will instead feature a mix of live multi-cultural and local music, kids rides and games, the popular Taste of Rockville and a new “Market Place” featuring unique goods for sale.

Blues Traveler is best known for its song “Run-Around,” which won the 1996 Grammy Award for Best Rock Vocal Performance by a Duo or Group and continues to be the record-holder for the single ever to remain on the Hot 100 Singles Chart (49 weeks) the longest.

Blues Traveler will continue the tradition of high-quality national entertainment that Hometown Holidays goes have come to expect from the biggest Memorial Day event in the metropolitan Washington area.

They will play to an expected

crowd of more than 30,000 that traditionally flocks to Rockville Town Center for a variety of activities throughout Memorial Day Weekend.

On Saturday, May 27, from 5-10 p.m., local entertainers such as “The Crowdaddies” and “The Reagan Years” will play as crowds enjoy food from Rockville restaurants at the Taste of Rockville. The Saturday entertainment mix will include multi-cultural music that has become highly popular in the area.

Bouncing, climbing and flying fun will be in store for kids as they enjoy a variety of rides and games while adults peruse a new Market Place of local merchants and artisans selling their wares.

On Sunday, May 28, Hometown Holidays will begin with the Ride for Rockville bicycle event from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. From 2-10 p.m., the Taste of Rockville, kids rides and games and the Market Place return. “The Kelly Bell Band” will open for Blues Traveler.

The weekend long celebration will culminate with the 62nd annual Rockville Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 29. Look for more details on Hometown Holidays activities in the special insert in the June edition of *Rockville Reports*. [RR](#)

## Town Center Parking: Easy Does It

*Planned System Will Help In Finding Spaces*

Rockville Town Center will have a state-of-the-art parking system that should eliminate the sight of people rushing to re-fill meters before time expires.

The Mayor and Council on March 13 approved a parking system that would have parkers pay—either by cash, credit cards or “smart cards” charged in advance with monetary value—at centrally located multi-space pay boxes in the garages.

An additional customer convenience would place pay boxes around the Town Center area that are linked electronically to the boxes in the garages. By knowing their space number, parkers could add minutes from one of these remote boxes without having to return to the garage where their car was located.

The Mayor and Council also unanimously approved giving all Rockville households 20 hours of free parking as a way to promote Town Center during its initial months of operation. All parking will be free on Saturdays and Sundays. A rate of \$1 per hour will be charged for Town Center parking Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The Mayor and Council will consider adding other advanced features for a parking system, but will have to weigh advantages of the systems against the costs.

Among the other elements that will be considered are electronic signs at various points approaching Town Center to let drivers know which of the three new public parking garages have spaces available. There also could be signs that would provide information on spaces available immediately before garage entrances.

Another option would let

drivers know as they are traveling through the garage which rows have available spaces.

The technology of the multi-space meters offers various options for retailers, restaurants and the library to validate parking. The Mayor and Council have requested further information on those options and emphasized the importance of maintaining a strong dialogue with Montgomery County regarding library parking. Some Montgomery County Council members have indicated a desire to provide free parking for patrons at all county libraries, including the new Rockville Library that will be a key element of the Rockville Town Square mixed-use development.

Some elements in Rockville Town Square will open later this year. Rockville Town Square will include residential, retail, restaurant, entertainment, office and cultural uses.

Regardless of what systems are selected, the Mayor and Council agreed that convenience for parkers will be one of the keys to success for the revitalized downtown.

“Wouldn’t it be great if people said, ‘You have to go to

### INSIDE

- FY07 TAX CREDITS AVAILABLE, pg. 3  
*Low-income Homeowners Can Take Advantage of City/State Programs*
- LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE, pg. 3
- SPRING FOCUS ON THE ARTS, See Insert

### Important City Budget Meetings

Spring is when the Rockville Mayor and Council make many of the decisions for the Fiscal Year 2007 City budget. All meetings are at 7 p.m. at Rockville City Hall and are subject to change. Call 240-314-8280 to confirm. Below is the entire budget meetings schedule:

**April 3** - Introduction of the Proposed Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program (CIP)

**April 24 and May 1** - Public Hearings on the Budget

**May 15 and 22** - Budget Worksessions

**June 5** - Adoption of Operating Budget and CIP

Rockville Town Center because the parking is so easy and convenient,” said Mayor Larry Giammo. [RR](#)



**REFUSE AND RECYCLING ROLL-OUT...** *Councilmember Susan Hoffmann, left, and City Manager Scott Ullery helped “roll-out” the Rockville Refuse and Recycling Pilot program on March 20. The program provides 778 households with wheeled carts for refuse and recycling for once-per-week collection. The pilot is being conducted until Jan. 7, 2007 to evaluate a different collection method in the City.*

## April’s Best of Rockville

### April 13

**Nature Center Spring Break Series: From Cow to Cone – Ice Cream Day** Meet dairy cows, make and taste your own ice cream, then take a hike. Part of a week of nature programs. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 7-13. \$40 RES/\$45 NR.

### April 15

**15 Eggstravaganza** Imaginations soar with egg hunts, (see photo right) games, crafts and pictures with a bunny. 10-11:30 a.m. Rockville Civic Center Park. FREE. 240-314-5022.



### April 23

**Pike’s Peek** More than 3,500 runners will gather on Rockville Pike for the Montgomery County Road Runners Club 11th Annual Pike’s Peek 10K run. 8 a.m.-9:30 a.m. 301-460-8888 or [www.mcrrc.org](#). See page 6 for details.

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# Neighborhood Network Learning Series Will Be April 8

Rockville’s network of nearly 60 neighborhood and civic associations are a vital part of the unique character of the City. To strengthen that network, the City’s Neighborhood Resources Program is offering a special one-day workshop called the “Neighborhood Network Learning Series” that will answer some of the most popular questions people in Rockville’s neighborhoods want to know.

Two sessions of four mini-workshops will be offered in an interactive and hands-on

setting on Saturday, April 8, from 8:30 a.m.-12 noon at the Rockville Senior Center.

Topics will include understanding Inspection Services and Code Enforcement, using technology to stay connected as a neighborhood, building community through neighborhood events and volunteerism and demystifying the process of amending association documents.

“The session topics are reflective of many of the inquiries we receive at the City from representatives of homeowner

and civic associations, as well as individuals ” said Dwayne Jenkins, a neighborhood resources coordinator. “We hope that as many people as possible take advantage of this opportunity to share information and best practices among the neighborhoods.”

All workshops are free and open to any City resident interested in civic participation. Limited spaces are available. To register, call the Neighborhood Resources Program at 240-314-8340 or e-mail Jenkins at [djenkins@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:djenkins@rockvillemd.gov). **RR**



## Focus on EVERY 15 MINUTES



**The City of Rockville Police Department conducted the “Every 15 Minutes” program at Rockville High School in 2005.**

## RMHS To Witness Consequences of Drinking and Driving

*Rockville has many programs that affect the lives of residents. On a regular basis, “Focus On” will take an introspective look at these programs and detail the impact they have for City residents.*

The students of Richard Montgomery High School (RMHS) practice for theatre productions, football games and academic contests to become proficient in a particular area. On April 20 and 21, RMHS students will participate in another kind of run through. This one encourages them to avoid a common teenage activity— drinking and driving.

The consequences of drinking and driving will be on graphic display through the “Every 15 Minutes” program. It is based on a national model that began in the 1990’s when every 15 minutes someone died from an alcohol related accident. Today, through educational measures such as “Every 15 Minutes,” that number is closer to every 30 minutes.

As prom season approaches—a time when many students might choose to use alcohol—the City of Rockville’s Police Department and police departments in surrounding communities will remind students and

their families of the importance of driving safely and responsibly through the program.

This is the fifth time RMHS will host the annual alcohol-awareness program the City conducts for Rockville’s three high schools. The program includes a series of events on Thursday, April 20, and Friday, April 21, to make students and their families painfully aware of the deadly effects of teen drunk-driving deaths and injuries that occur each year.

Rockville’s Every 15 Minutes program brings the impact of consequences to the forefront through a number of activities including a drinking and driving accident scene in front of the school and a morning school assembly when students recount their experiences being “living dead.”

Ron Brotman of Allstate Insurance has supported the program since its inception eight years ago.

“I wish all schools had the ability to do the ‘Every 15 Minutes’ program,” said Brotman. “It is so important to get the kids to know that they need to make the right choices. They think, ‘It will never happen to me,’ but it can.” **RR**



**NOT PLAYING AROUND...** A recent fire completely destroyed the playground equipment at Rockville’s Broome Park complex on Twinbrook Parkway. Montgomery County Fire and Rescue continues to investigate the origin of the fire. The City’s Department of Recreation and Parks installed the play equipment about four years ago. It is estimated that it will cost about \$50,000 to replace. The City is working quickly toward replacing the equipment.

No more pencils,  
no more books...  
what will the kids  
do this summer?

## City of Rockville Summer Camps

One-and two-week camps for pre-schoolers through teenagers

- Registration Now Open
- Camps Start June 19
- Visit [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) (click on “Rock Enroll”) or call 240-314-8620 for a copy of the Summer Camps Guide



**ONE CENTURY STRONG...** Rockville resident Gussie Bein celebrated her 100th birthday at Glenview Mansion in March. Bein is a resident of Ring House who stays fit by exercising her mind and body, such as using an exercise arm band (left). “They have scrabble tournaments at Ring House and the last one she was in, about two years ago, she finished second,” said Bein’s son Bob, 64.





**The Mayor and Council honored Roald Schrack (at podium) for representing Rockville on the Montgomery Community Television Board of Directors for 20 years.**

## Schrack Cited for MCT Role

Roald Schrack, one of the initial members of the Montgomery Community Television Board of Directors, was honored by Rockville's Mayor and Council on March 20 for his two decades of service in representing the City on the independent, nonprofit organization that provides Rockville and Montgomery County with cable television services.

MCT provides television training, production and programming under a contract with Montgomery County. It operates two channels on the

cable systems in Montgomery County: The Open Channel (Channel 19) and the Montgomery Channel (Channel 21). Schrack has decided to vacate his position as the City representative to MCT. A search is ongoing for a new representative.

A certificate of appreciation presented by the Mayor and Council to Schrack thanked him for "his tireless efforts to provide, maintain and enhance public access television as a forum for broad and diverse community dialogue." **RR**



**THE LOOK OF TOWN CENTER'S FUTURE... Rockville Town Square has been under construction since July of 2004. In March, the protective covering was removed from several of the new buildings, revealing facades with an "age-worn" look. The first buildings are scheduled to open later this year. (Photo by Dean Evangelista)**

## City Hall: Finishing Touches

After more than a year of significant renovations, Rockville has a brighter, more efficient City Hall that is easier for residents to navigate and creates more useful space for staff.

All major construction is complete, although finishing minor details may be ongoing through May. A summer open house is planned to allow residents to tour the building.

The new customer-friendly layout greets visitors at a new front information desk in the third-floor lobby.

On the second level, new counter areas for the departments of Public Works and Community Planning and Development Services have proven to be major improvements for customers and employees.

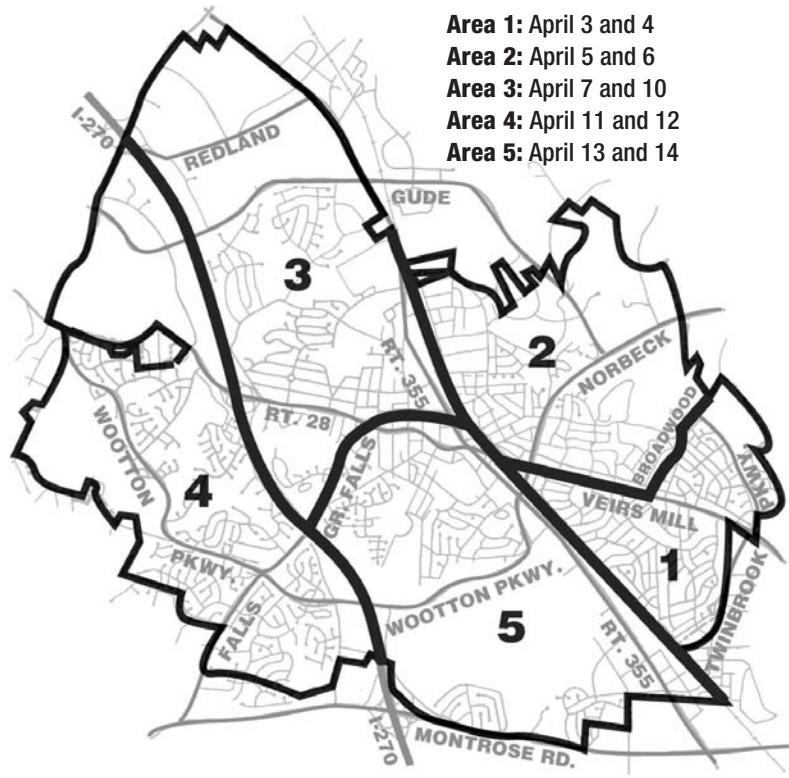
"We are 99 percent complete with the project," said Burt Hall, director of the City's Department of Recreation and Parks. "I think everyone will be impressed on how we utilized the space available. And we gave City Hall a fresh look that will serve everyone very well for many years." **RR**

## Spring Leaf Collection to Run April 3-14

*Winter Leaves: Rake 'em Up and Move 'em Out*

Spring has sprung and once again so has Rockville's spring leaf collection program. The first two weeks of each April the City's Department of Public Works collects loose leaves using special vacuums.

The day before the scheduled collection, residents should prepare their leaves by raking them into piles onto the nearest gutter or immediately adjacent to the pavement, where no curb or gutter exist. Only loose leaves will be collected, so be sure to remove all limbs, rocks and other heavy objects from the pile. Do not place leaves in plastic bags, as they will not be collected. For more information, call 240-314-8566. **RR**



**Area 1:** April 3 and 4  
**Area 2:** April 5 and 6  
**Area 3:** April 7 and 10  
**Area 4:** April 11 and 12  
**Area 5:** April 13 and 14

## Applications Now Being Accepted for Homeowners' Property Tax Credits

*Low-Income Homeowners Can Also Apply for City and State Programs*

Low-income Rockville residents who own homes can plan now to take advantage of a City program that provides an opportunity to get credits on property taxes.

The Rockville Homeowners' Property Tax Credit program supplements the State of Maryland Homeowners' Property Tax Credit program that allows credits against the homeowner's property tax bill by setting a limit on the amount of property taxes any homeowner must pay based upon his or her income.

The state program allows for pro-rated savings, depending upon the homeowner's income. Rockville homeowners who qualify for the state program automatically will receive

a credit on their City of Rockville property tax worth 35 percent of the state credit up to the amount of city tax liability.

The tax credit plan is designed to provide relief to Rockville homeowners who most need help. By working in conjunction with the state's tax credit plan, residents need to fill out only one application. The credits that will be granted from the City will automatically be calculated when the homeowner's state tax credits are determined.

The Rockville Homeowners' Property Tax Credit program was approved by the Mayor and Council in the FY 2006 budget. Last December, more than 300 low-income Rockville

residents who signed up for a new City of Rockville's tax credit program received reimbursement checks.

An application is routinely sent to homeowners who were recipients of a state tax credit in the previous year. However, the Homeowners' Tax Credit is not automatically granted.

To get more information on how to apply for the state and Rockville tax credit programs, call the City's Department of Finance at 240-314-8400 or the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation at (toll free) 1-800-944-7403. Detailed information also is available at the State Department of Assessments Web site at [www.dat.state.md.us](http://www.dat.state.md.us). **RR**



**START RIGHT... Montgomery County Executive Doug Duncan, Mary Moslander and Linda Dawkins celebrate Moslander's first place award in the seventh annual Start Right! Business Plan Competition at the Women in Business Conference. The Rockville Chamber of Commerce and Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) are among the contest co-sponsors. Moslander's plan for Live Healthier, a subscription-based Internet service, earned her \$7,500 (\$5,000 sponsored by EagleBank, \$2,500 by Montgomery County Department of Economic Development.)**



## Rockville Launches First Annual Bicycle Commuter Award

Each year on the region's annual Bike To Work Day, Rockville encourages citizens to try the easy and inexpensive way to commute to work through special "pit-stops" along City bike routes that provide support and snacks.

Bike to Work Day 2006, on Friday, May 19, will again feature pit-stops in Falls Grove and Rockville Town Center. But the day also will include the announcement of winners of a new award for people who regularly make their commute by bicycle. And at least one of them will win a coveted new Trek bicycle.

Rockville's Department of Public Works is launching the first annual Bicycle Commuter Award. Local businesses and friends of regular bicycle commuters are encouraged to nominate those who take two wheels to work, rather than four, at least two days per week throughout the year. Each of the nominees will be entered into a raffle to win the bicycle, donated by Revolution Cycles with Trek Bicycles. The

winner(s) will be announced at Rockville pit-stops on Bike to Work Day.

"This award allows us to recognize the many people who choose to commute to work by bicycle," said Jon Ryder, Rockville's Bike to Work Day coordinator. "Along with celebrating the people who bike, not just on Bike to Work Day, but every day, it will allow us to share best practices and the many reasons why people commute by bike."

Entry forms are available on the Rockville Web site at [www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/bicycling/bikework.htm](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/bicycling/bikework.htm) and must be submitted by May 1.

Rockville pit-stops will be located at the Rockville Regional Transportation Center located at 521 Falls Grove Drive and the Rockville Red Brick Courthouse located at the intersection of Maryland Avenue and East Montgomery Avenue.

For more information, call 240-314-8509 or e-mail [jryder@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:jryder@rockvillemd.gov). **RR**



## May is Bike Month in Rockville

Mark the calendar for these special bicycle events:

### MAY 2 — Bike Tour of Hope Speaker Keith Bellizzi

Bellizzi discusses his ride, which took him and 23 others including Lance Armstrong, from California to Washington, D.C., spreading the message of hope for cancer survivors. 7:30 p.m. Montgomery County Executive Office Building. FREE

### MAY 4 — Bike Repair

Learn how to repair your bicycle. 7 p.m. King Farm Club House. \$10 residents/\$15 non-residents

### MAY 6 — Millennium Trail Fun Run/Walk/Bike

Celebrate the completion of Rockville's 10.6 mile Millennium Trail. 8 a.m. Starts at Falls Grove Club House. FREE

### MAY 7 — C&O Canal Bike Series #4 Williamsport to Shepherdstown

Enjoy a bicycle ride along 26-miles of the historic C&O Canal. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Departs from City Hall. \$34 residents/\$42 non-residents

### MAY 19 — Bike to Work Day

Try bike riding to work with support at special pit-stops throughout the area. 7-9 a.m. "Pit-stops" in Falls Grove and Rockville Town Center. FREE

### MAY 28 — Ride for Rockville

Choose from 25-mile and 10-mile fundraising rides for all ages to support Rockville's Bike Fund and the Rockville Youth Recreation Fund. 8 a.m. (25-mile ride) 8:30 a.m. (10-mile ride) Rockville Town Center. \$25-\$45 Adult/\$15-\$30 Child depending on registration date

## Environment Commission Holds Summit on Stormwater April 11

As Rockville transitions from a suburban to an urban area, stormwater management has become a topic of concern for many Rockville residents. During heavy rainstorms, a large amount of stormwater runs off of paved surfaces and eventually into Rockville streams, instead of seeping into the ground. This fast moving water can cause stream erosion and other problems in and around the City.

Rockville's Commission on the Environment is conducting an Environmental Summit on Tuesday, April 11, from 7-9 p.m. at the Rockville Senior Center to provide more information on stormwater management—a topic that many residents have expressed an interest in learning more.

Experts from one of the nation's leading organizations on the subject, the Center for Watershed Protection, will give a 45-minute presentation. The presentation will include discussion of how stormwater affects Rockville's watersheds, what



**COMMITTING TO CLEAN UP...Councilmember Bob Dorsey represented the City of Rockville on March 16 at a region-wide ceremony at which jurisdictions committed resources to back the Trash Free Potomac Watershed Initiative. The goal of the project is to have a trash-free Potomac by 2013.**

local infrastructure is in place to help alleviate stormwater affects and what best practices and principals have been applied in other areas that could be applied in Rockville.

"We want to bring information about best practices and emerging technologies and put it directly in the hands of the citizens of Rockville," said Faith Klareich, chair of the Commission on the Environment. "Sometimes people have misconceptions of the best way

to handle stormwater management in their neighborhood."

Following the presentation, there will be a panel discussion to answer questions.

The summit will be held in the Azelea Room of the Rockville Senior Center, located at 1150 Carnation Drive. For more information about the summit, e-mail [environment@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:environment@rockvillemd.gov) or call 240-314-8212. **RR**

## Twinbrook Sports Party

Family events have proven to be a major success at the Twinbrook Community Recreation Center. The center's newest event, the "Family Sports Party" on April 28, is likely to be a big hit as well.

The Sports Party will be held from 7-9 p.m. on Friday, April 28. All family members are invited to dance to the songs spun by a DJ and play many games that will be available. Crafts and popcorn also will be part of the evening.

For the event, children must be accompanied by their parents. Entrance fee is \$3 per person. Everyone should wear a favorite sports jersey and ball cap.

For more information, call 240-314-8830. **RR**

## Lifeguard Training

The Rockville Swim Center is offering a Lifeguard Certification Course April 11-14 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Participants must be 15 years or older by Friday, April 14. Attendance at every class is mandatory to complete the course. \$20 for the pre-test; \$130 for the course. Contact the Rockville Municipal Swim Center at 240-314-8750. **RR**



**Rockville Police Sergeant Eric Over (center) with members of the Pinneberg Polizei.**

## 'Over' There: Rockville Sister City Sponsors First Police Exchange

While the Rockville Sister City Corporation will celebrate its 50th anniversary next year, its innovative exchange program is anything but old.

Among the many ways the organization dedicated to building and maintaining Rockville's relationship with its Sister City, Pinneberg, German, fulfills its mission is through exchanges offered for residents, students and most recently, a police officer.

In June 2005, the group invited Sergeant Eric Over of the Rockville City Police Department to join 10 Rockville residents for a unique trip to Germany. Over was selected

by a panel to represent the department on the goodwill trip.

For many of the 10 days, he stayed in the home of a member of the Pinneberg Polizei, Kai Sibbert and learned about the many similarities and differences between the two law-enforcement organizations.

"It was amazing to see the similarities," said Over. "It is different from an administrative aspect, but the general policing similarities were uncanny."

Over intends to repay the hospitality of his German hosts when Sibbert and other Pinneberg residents travel to Rockville in 2007. **RR**



# INSIDE MAYOR & COUNCIL

A Glimpse into the City Government at Work



**A DOG-GONE GOOD TIME IN ANNAPOLIS...** *Members of the Rockville Mayor and Council and City staff hosted a hot dog lunch for members of Maryland's General Assembly in Annapolis to encourage support for Rockville's initiatives in need of state funding. The theme "Rockville Town Center: Turning the Corner" emphasized how close the City and its partners are to successfully completing Phase I of Rockville Town Center, called Rockville Town Square. Above (left to right) are Rockville Councilmember Susan Hoffmann, Dist. 35 State Senator J. Robert Hooper, Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo, Rockville Councilmember Anne Robbins, Dist. 16 Delegate Brian Frosh and Dist. 17 State Senator Jennie Forehand.*

## Rockville Considers Water and Sewer Rate Structure Changes Adjustments to Promote Conservation

A consultant's report is recommending that Rockville adjust its water and sewer rate structures to help promote conservation and to benefit those who use the least water.

The report of consultant Municipal and Financial Services Group (MFSG) was presented to the Mayor and Council on March 20. The report has led to seven recommendations, which if implemented over a five-year period, would help put the City's Water and Sewer enterprise funds in a much stronger financial position.

Currently, all users of Rockville-provided water pay the same rate (about 15 percent of users get their water from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, which does charge more to bigger users). If adopted as part of the FY 2007 budget process, an alternative rate structure will benefit average homeowners while shifting additional costs to consumers of larger amounts that lead to more taxing of the City's water system. Lower rates for those who use less water could lead to many users conserving water and receiving lower quarterly bills.

"The average residential user will benefit from these changes by receiving lower rates over time," said Gavin Cohen, Rockville's Director of Finance.

The consultant's report also recommends that the City implement a fixed charge per billing cycle for all users—similar to charges assessed by most

water providers throughout the region. The report recommends that users with one-inch-sized meters be assessed \$15 per quarter (or \$5 per cycle if billed monthly). Most common in Rockville are three-quarter-inch meters, those users will be assessed \$9 per quarter.

"This is basically a 'ready to serve' charge," said Cohen. "The system is there and must be maintained. People turn on faucets and expect to have water. This change helps ensure that the system is always maintained, regardless of how much it is used by any one user."

In FY 2005, an audited report showed the City's Water Fund operated for FY05 at a net loss of \$839,707. The MFSG report estimates that under the current rate system, the City would generate only about 60 percent of the revenues required to operate the water system and the Sewer Fund would operate at approximately a six percent revenue deficit of actual costs.

If adopted, the new rate structure (with varying rates and the fixed charges) would increase revenue in FY 2007 by about eight percent for the Water Fund and four percent for the Sewer Fund.

"Implementation of all of the consultant's recommendations will result in water and sewer enterprise funds that meet all of the City's objectives over time," said a staff report prepared for the Mayor and Council. **RR**

## 11 Named to Zoning Advisory Committee

*Diverse Group will Study Land-Use Regulations*

Rockville's Mayor and Council have named 11 members to the Rockville Zoning Ordinance Review (RORZOR) committee, a volunteer advisory panel that will help the City reshape its Zoning Ordinance. Mayor Larry Giammo and Councilmember Susan Hoffmann will be part of the committee that will make recommendations that could have long-term impact on Rockville's future.

The City received a total of 26 applications for the advisory panel. The selected group fulfills the goal of the Mayor and Council to have a cross-section of backgrounds to make sure the views of a variety of stakeholders are represented.

The last comprehensive zoning revision to Rockville's Zoning Ordinance took place more than 30 years ago. The Planning Commission and the Mayor and Council are scheduled to consider the revisions through most of 2007.

In addition to Mayor Giammo and Councilmember Hoffmann, both of whom previously served on the City's Planning Commission, the advisory panel will include current Planning Commission members John Britton (an attorney who is a resident in West End) and Kate Ostell (a psychiatrist in private practice who lives in the

Roxboro neighborhood). Representing the Board of Appeals will be David Hill, who has been active in Rockville civic affairs since 1993.

Representing the citizens, businesses and the development community will be: Christina Ginsberg (chair of the Twinbrook Citizens Association); Glenn Looper (a longtime resident who operates a business in East Rockville); Julia MacDonough (who lives in a historically-designated house in the Watts Branch Meadows neighborhood); Nancy Regelin (a land-use attorney with more than 20 years of experience and a member of the board of directors of the Rockville Chamber of Commerce); John Tyner (a member of the Mayor and Council from 1978-85 and current chair of the Twinbrook Neighborhood Plan Advisory Group); and Lynette Whitfield (a lawyer and King Farm resident).

The public is invited to the committee meetings, which will start at 6 p.m. at City Hall and are tentatively set for March 28; April 4, 11 and 20; and May 2.

For more information on the zoning revision process, contact Rockville's Department of Planning and Community Development at 240-314-8200 or by e-mail at [zoning@rockville.md.gov](mailto:zoning@rockville.md.gov). **RR**



**BUSINESS BREAKFAST BREAK...** *Nearly 30 African-American business owners, including Verl B. Zanders, left, Chairman and CEO of Z-Tech Corporation, met over breakfast with Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo, right, and Councilmembers Bob Dorsey and Susan Hoffmann on February 28 at Rockville City Hall. The event, hosted by Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI), sought to create a dialogue between the business leaders, the City and REDI to share information and ideas on expanding businesses in Rockville. REDI representatives are available to help business looking to expand in Rockville. REDI can help with site selection and provide information on demographics, real estate trends, financing and workforce development. Call 301-315-8096 or visit [www.rockvilleredi.org](http://www.rockvilleredi.org).*



Mayor  
Larry Giammo



Councilmember  
Bob Dorsey



Councilmember  
Susan R. Hoffmann



Councilmember  
Phyllis Marcuccio



Councilmember  
Anne M. Robbins

## Mayor & Council Drop In

The Mayor and one Councilmember are available to meet with residents on a drop-in basis in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall from 5:30-6:30 p.m. one Monday per month. Call the City Clerk's Office (240-314-8280) as drop-in times are subject to change.

In addition to Mayor Larry Giammo, the Councilmember scheduled for April is:

- **Monday, April 24:** Bob Dorsey

## Mayor & Council Meetings

*All General Sessions, Worksessions and Public Hearings are televised on The Rockville Channel (TRC 11), and are available on streaming video at: [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov).*

*Citizens may comment on any subject for up to three minutes during the "Citizens Forum" portion at most general session meetings. All meetings are subject to change.*

- **April 3 (Mon.)** Citizens' Forum. Budget Presentation, 7 p.m.
- **April 10 (Mon.)** Public Hearing: 302 Lincoln Ave. Discussion with Historic District Commission (tentative), 7 p.m.
- **April 24 (Mon.)** Citizens' Forum. Budget Public Hearing. 7 p.m.

## Boards & Commissions Vacancies

*The City is seeking applicants for appointment to the following:*

- Cultural Arts Commission (one)
- Environment Commission (one)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (one at-large)
- Human Rights Commission (one)
- Montgomery Community Television (MCT) Board of Directors (City of Rockville rep.)
- Rec. and Parks Advisory (youth)
- Rockville Housing Enterprises (one)
- Rockville Scholarship Foundation (two)
- Rockville Seniors, Inc. (one)
- Rockville Sister City Corp. (one)
- Senior Citizens Commission (one)
- Traffic and Transportation (one)

For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at 240-314-8280.





**Rockville Science Day offers hands-on learning experiences for all ages. The 17<sup>th</sup> annual exhibition of the amazing world of science will be on Sunday, May 7, at Montgomery College's Rockville campus.**

## Rockville Science Day Explores New Adventures

Rockville Science Day is an annual event that brings real-life adventures of all kinds to people of all ages. This year, the 17th annual Rockville Science Day is stretching beyond its traditional borders for even more experiences.

This year's exploration of new fields and challenges will be held on Sunday, May 7, from 12 noon-5 p.m. on the Rockville campus of Montgomery College. The event, which has free admission and parking, annually attracts thousands for an afternoon of fun with math and science ex-

periments and a look at the future.

Popular favorite attractions will again be present, such as model rocket launches. Among the new features will be the mobile lab of the J. Craig Venter Institute. The Institute is a nonprofit research organization dedicated to the advancement of the science of genomics.

Also making a debut as part of Rockville Science Day will be an exhibition of homing pigeons. A demonstration will take place showing the remarkable way the pigeons travel long distances to designated home bases. City of Rockville

Police will be present to demonstrate the techniques of fingerprinting. Children can be fingerprinted at the event.

Rockville Science Day is organized by the Rockville Consortium for Science, which invites local scientists, historians, engineers and technology experts to bring their work to life, with hands-on science and technology activities for all ages.

Spots are still available for appropriate exhibits for this year's Science Day. For more information, visit [www.rockvillescience.org](http://www.rockvillescience.org) or call 301-279-9444. **RR**

## Rockville 'Friends of The Library' Offer Spring Author Series

Maryland history will be the topic of discussion at a spring presentation hosted by Rockville's Friends of the Library on Thursday, April 27.

The free program will feature Montgomery College professor emeritus and professional photographer Dan McDermott discussing a photo essay of "Landscapes of Maryland" at 7 p.m. in the board room of Rockville Library located at 99 Maryland Avenue.

The April talk is one program in a series of spring author events hosted by Rockville's Friends of the Library.

A talk on Thursday, May 18, will feature Amy Schapiro discussing how to write non-fiction for publication. That event will be held at 7 p.m. at the Montgomery County Executive Office Building on 101 Monroe Street.

McDermott will present a visual essay showing Maryland from the Atlantic Shore to the Western Plateau, including commentary about the history, geography and geology of

Maryland's five regions.

Bringing history alive for the audience is a special talent of this well-known historian. Copies of a book and matted prints of McDermott's photographs will be available for purchase and autographing at the event.

Schapiro is the author of the first biography of Millicent Fenwick, best remembered as the pipe-smoking grandmother in Congress and model for Garry Trudeau's *Doonesbury* character Lacey Davenport.

A native of New Jersey, Schapiro was granted the exclusive rights to Millicent Fenwick's private papers by Fenwick's son, Hugh. The result is *Millicent Fenwick: Her Way*. Schapiro's discussion will give details on the "ins and outs" of choosing a subject, doing research and finding a publisher.

For more information about the free author series, call Diane Monnier, Rockville Library senior librarian, at 240-777-0158. **RR**

## Spring Into Gardening: Plots Available

Space is still available in the Rockville Garden Plot program, which offers 20 by 25 foot plots for residents to tend on their own from April 1 through Nov. 15. The garden is located in Woottons Mill Park, off of Hurley Avenue in Rockville.

"I can walk to the park, pick things for lunch or dinner and walk back. There is nothing like having fresh vegetables

whenever you want," said Rockshire resident Karen Schartman, who has participated in the program for the past six years.

For more than three decades area residents have participated in the Garden Plot Program. It offers the opportunity to grow vegetables and plants among 177 plots. City residents pay \$40, non-resi-

dents pay \$50 per plot. Gardeners may rent more than one plot.

Detailed information about the 2006 Garden Plot Program, including an application form, is available on the City's Web site at [www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/garden/index.html](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/garden/index.html). For more information, call 240-314-8660 or e-mail [nbelice@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:nbelice@rockvillemd.gov). **RR**



**David Korir, 23, of Kenya took first place with a time of 29:24 in the Men's Division of the 2005 Pike's Peek race.**

## Pike's Peek 10K Run Set for April 23

Tie up the shoelaces and grab a water bottle. On Sunday, April 23, more than 3,500 runners are expected to gather on Rockville Pike for the Montgomery County Road Runners Club 11th Annual Pike's Peek 10K run.

The race begins at 8 a.m. at the Redland Road entrance to the Shady Grove Metro and follows six miles down two of the three northbound lanes of

Rockville Pike (Route 355) to the finish line in front of White Flint Mall. The race will take approximately an hour and one half to complete.

Motorists should expect brief delays during the race. The event will be finished by 9:30 a.m.

If you wish to participate or have questions regarding road closures, call 301-460-8888 or visit [www.mcrrc.org](http://www.mcrrc.org). **RR**



**EGG-CELLENT SPRING FUN...** *Rockville's annual Eggstravagana, sponsored by the Department of Recreation and Parks, is among the City's most popular spring events. Kids of all ages can participate in egg hunts, games and crafts on Saturday, April 15, from 10-11:30 a.m. in Rockville Civic Center Park. A giant bunny will be available for photos. The event is free and open to all City residents. For more information, call the City's Department of Recreation and Parks at 240-314-5022.*



In Brief

Tax Assistance Program Available

A free tax preparation program for low-income residents and senior citizens is available to Rockville residents through the Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center at 332 West Edmonston Drive in Rockville.

Advance appointments are required to have taxes prepared. For more information on the program or to make an appointment, call 301-279-1035.

CALL 301-279-1035 FOR INFO

Ayuda para prepara los impuestos

El Programa Voluntario de Asistencia para el Impuesto Sobre la Renta (VITA—*Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program*) está disponible para los residentes de bajos ingresos y las personas de edad de Rockville. El programa, dirigido por el Centro de Recursos y Referencia para la Atención y del Niño de Montgomery County (*Montgomery County*

*Child Care Resource and Referral Center*), funciona en 332 West Edmonston Drive en Rockville. Se exige que los interesados hagan sus citas por adelantado para que se les preparen las declaraciones de impuestos. Para más información, llamar al 301-279-1035.

—Translated by Victoria Imas-Duchovny

Rockville Scholarship Applications Due May 1

College costs continue to increase, but there is help available for qualified Rockville students.

Students who are residents of the City of Rockville; attend Rockville, Richard Montgomery or Wootton high schools; take classes at the Rockville campus of Montgomery College; are members (or children of members) of the Rockville Chamber of Commerce; or are an employee (or child of an employee) of the City of Rockville are encourage to apply to receive a college scholarship ranging from \$1,000-\$4,000.

The independent Rockville Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

awards the scholarships in a partnership with the Rockville Chamber of Commerce, the City of Rockville and Montgomery College.

Applications due by May 1 and are available at each of the participating schools, at City Hall and at the Chamber of Commerce.

For more information call 301-424-9300 or visit [www.rockvillechamber.org](http://www.rockvillechamber.org).

Rockville Watershed Cleanups April 8

The City will join Potomac Watershed Clean-up Day by holding clean-ups in each of the three City watersheds (Rock Creek, Cabin John and Watts Branch) on Saturday, April 8, from 9 a.m.-12 noon. E-mail [environment@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:environment@rockvillemd.gov) or call 240-314-8212 for more information.

CALL 240-314-8212 FOR INFO

Verizon Credits for Phone Outages

Verizon said it will provide credits to 2,400 residential and

business customers who were without service between the afternoon of Monday, Jan. 30 and Saturday morning, Feb. 4, following an accident that damaged a line in Rockville Town Center.

Verizon asks that customers seeking credits call 301-954-6260 or the number on their Verizon phone bills. Customers should be prepared to list the days that they were without phone service during that period.

CALL 301-954-6260 FOR INFO

Annual Yellow Balloon Fair April 22

Rockville Community Nursery School, in conjunction with the City’s Department of Recreation and Parks, will hold the 27th annual Yellow Balloon Fair on Saturday, April 22, from 11 a.m.- 3 p.m. at 100 Welsh Park Drive in Rockville.

Pony rides, a moon bounce, face painting, games, prizes, art activities, a bake sale, plant sale and silent auction are among the activities.

CALL 301-340-7584 FOR INFO

Planning a party?

The City has the perfect place for your next event ■ Themed birthday parties ■ Weddings ■ Anniversaries ■ Corporate retreats

240-314-8620  
[www.rockvillemd.gov/facilityrental](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/facilityrental)

Talk it Out to Work it Out

The Rockville Human Rights Commission sponsors a Community Mediation Program for City residents and persons that have experienced conflict in Rockville.

If you have experienced discrimination in a work or public place, call the Rockville Community Mediation Program at 240-314-8316. The program is free and confidential.

CALL 240-314-8316 FOR INFO

CITY 7,14,21,28 MOBY Medical Clinic 9:30-11:30 a.m. Lincoln Park Community Recreation Center. 301-493-2400

15 Off-Leash Dog Testing 10 a.m. Swim Center Outdoor Entrance Parking Lot. 240-314-8930

15 Eggstravaganza 10-11:30 a.m. Rockville Civic Center Park. FREE. 240-314-5022.

22 RBBA Opening Day Ceremonies The Rockville Baseball Association kicks off its 52nd year of organized youth baseball in Rockville. 9 a.m. Dogwood Park. 240-314-8620.

ARTS The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery and F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre are located in Rockville’s Civic Center Park. Arts Hotline: 240-314-5006. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre). Service charges apply.

1 National Philharmonic Presents Jung Lin Piano Recital 8 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Tickets: \$25, \$18, \$11. Children 7-17 FREE. 240-314-8690.

2-May 2 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery: Carol Lopatin—landscape acrylic on paper; William J. Moore—bronze sculpture; Michael Sastre—landscape oil paintings and works on paper. Opening reception, April 2, 1-4 p.m. Artist talk, April 20, 7:30 p.m. Guided tour, April 21, 10 a.m. Glenview Mansion. 240-314-8660.

2 Sunday Afternoon Concert Series: QuinTango 2-3 p.m. Glenview Mansion. 240-314-8682.

8-9 Rockville Civic Ballet: Firebird Sat. 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. \$12 adults. \$8 children (12 and under) and seniors (60 and older.) 240-314-8681.

27,28,29 Rockville Little Theatre: The Winslow Boy A moving story of a pre-World War I British family fighting against odds for honor, truth and justice. 8 p.m. (Sun. at 2 p.m.) F. Scott Fitzgerald The-

april calendar of events

RES. = Residents • NR. = Non Residents • MEM. = Member • NM. = Non Member

atre. \$14 adults. \$12 seniors (62 and older) and students with ID. \$7 children 12 and under. \$7 preview price (April 27 only) 240-314-8690.

30 Rockville Concert Band 3 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. FREE. 240-314-8690.

NATURE All programs are at the Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, Rockville Civic Center Park, unless noted. Registration is required. Register online at [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) or call 240-314-8770.

8 Eastern Shore Van Trip – Eagles Visit Blackwater Wildlife Refuge, which hosts the East Coast’s largest nesting population of bald eagles north of Florida. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Ages 16 and over. \$40 RES/\$45 NR.

8 High School Lecture Series: Science of Roadkill Learn anatomy the best way possible by being up to your elbows in intestines. Strong stomachs required. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Ages 12 and over. \$5 RES/\$6 NR.

9 Family Wildflower and Bird Walk Take a hike and look for the arrival of spring birds and newly sprouted wildflowers. Bring binoculars (a few are available for loan) and a camera. 10-11 a.m. Ages 7 and over. \$5 RES/\$6 NR.

SPRING BREAK ADVENTURES

10 Horseback Riding See nature from a new perspective—atop a horse. Includes horse rental. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 8-13. \$50 RES/\$60 NR.

11 On Top of Old Sugarloaf Hike to the top of Sugarloaf Mountain to look for Black Vultures and, if the sun is shining, any snakes emerging from their winter rest. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 7-13. \$40 RES/\$45 NR.

12 Spring into Art Each camper will create a finished work of art to be framed and displayed in a classroom as the debut show for our upcoming Children’s Art Gallery. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 7-13. \$40 RES/\$45 NR.

13 From Cow to Cone – Ice Cream Day Meet dairy cows, make and taste your own ice cream, then take a hike. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 7-13. \$40 RES/\$45 NR.

14 PEAK (Promoting Environmental Awareness in Kids) A specialist from REI teaches key principles on how to minimize human impact in wilderness and natural areas. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 7-13. \$40 RES/\$45 NR.

19 Tiny Tot Walk – Rain, Rain, Come to Play! 10:30-11:15 a.m. Ages 1½-2. \$4 RES/\$5 NR.

19 Tyke Hike - Rain, Rain, Come to Play! 1-2 p.m. Ages 3-5. \$4 RES/\$5 NR.

21 Evening Amphibians Little animals can make a big noise! Search the park for peepers, gray treefrogs, American toads, wood frogs and salamanders. Learn a few frog calls of your own. 7-8 p.m. All ages. \$4 RES/\$5 NR.

29 High School Lecture Series: Amazon Rainforest Brian Hayum from the Amazon Conservation Association presents a program on rainforest ecology. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Ages 13 and over. \$5 RES/\$6 NR.

SENIORS All programs are at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, unless noted. Phone: 240-314-8800

3 Citizenship 12:30-2:30 p.m. \$15 MEM/ \$20 NM

3 Once Upon A Time Book Club 10:15-11:15 a.m. FREE. Register by March 31.

4-11 Computers– The Essentials 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$23 MEM/\$27 NM

5 April Birthday and Anniversary Party 1:30- 3 p.m. FREE. Register one week prior.

5 Computers– Clarify Concepts 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$6 MEM/\$8 NM

6 Hand Painted Glassware For

Spring 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \$6 MEM/\$8 NM. \$10 material fee payable at class. Register by March 30.

7,21,28 Chinese Brush Painting 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$60 MEM/\$60 NM. Register by March 31.

11 Braving Antarctica 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. Register by April 4.

12 Reverse Mortgages 10 a.m.-12 noon. FREE

13 Do You Have Enlarged Gums? 1-2 p.m. FREE

17-May1 Computers Windows XP 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$35 MEM/\$43 NM

18-20 Computers Drawing in MS Word 1-3 p.m. \$8 MEM/\$10 NM

19 Protect Your Assets 1-2:30 p.m. FREE

20 Hints for the Memory Challenged 10 a.m.-12 noon. FREE

20 Stroke Prevention (English and Spanish) 1-2 p.m. FREE

20,27 Hand Chime Choir 1:15-2 p.m. \$6 MEM/\$9 NM. Register by April 13.

24 Preparing Your Spring Garden 10-11 a.m. \$2 MEM/\$4 NM. Register by April 17.

24 Group Piano Advanced Beginner 10:15-11:15 a.m. \$60 MEM/\$75 NM. Register by April 17.

25 Group Piano Advanced Intermediate 10:15-11:15 a.m. \$60 MEM/\$75 NM. Register by April 18.

25 Group Piano Elementary 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \$60 MEM/\$75 NM. Register by April 18.

26 The Jefferson Café – Founding Sisters 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Register by April 19.

27 Veterans Drop-In 10 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE. Register by April 27.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS All meetings are at City Hall unless otherwise noted.

1 Board of Appeals, 9:30 a.m.

4 RORZOR (Zoning), 6 p.m.

11 Human Services Advisory Commission, 7:30 p.m., Azalea Room, Senior Center

11 Commission on the Environment, 7:30 p.m.

11 RORZOR (Zoning), 6 p.m.

12 Sign Review Board, 4 p.m. (held as needed)

12 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

13 Bike Advisory Commission, 7:15 p.m.

18 Rockville Seniors, Inc., 1 p.m., Senior Center

18 Town Center Action Team, 7 p.m., Room 105, Red Brick Courthouse

19 Rockville Housing Enterprises, 6:30 p.m., Lincoln Park Community Center

19 Cultural Arts Commission, 7 p.m.

20 RORZOR (Zoning), 6 p.m.

20 Rockville Sister City Corporation, 7:30 p.m.

20 Senior Citizens Commission, 10 a.m., Senior Center

20 Historic District Commission, 7 p.m., Senior Center

25 Traffic and Transportation Commission, 7:30 p.m.

26 Human Rights Commission, 7:30 p.m.

26 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

27 Recreation and Parks Advisory Board, 7 p.m., Nature Center

28 Rockville Economic Development, Inc. Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., 95 Monroe Street (call 301-315-8096)



# Rockville Up Close: Senior Center’s ‘Helping Hands’

Residents help shape Rockville through involvement with neighborhood and civic associations and participation on Mayor and Council-appointed Boards and Commissions. On a regular basis, Rockville Up Close will take an in-depth look at these organizations.

Injured soldiers at the U.S. Army’s Walter Reed Medical Center will have new, warm afghans to comfort them, thanks in part to the Rockville Senior Center’s “Helping Hands” group.

The Senior Center members’ knitting group is one of the many area organizations and individuals joining in the effort to create handmade afghans to thank the members of the U.S. Armed Forces who have served the country.

An organized effort to create handmade afghans began in December 2005 with the help of project organizer Deborah Starobin-Armstrong. Since then, seven “put-together” events have taken place. The most recent one took place at the Rockville Senior Center on Saturday, Feb. 18.

The eighth put-together



Volunteers sort knitted rectangles, which will be made into quilts for injured soldiers at Water Reed Army Medical Center.

event will be held on Saturday, April 1, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Schweinhaut Senior Center at 1000 Forest Glen Road in Silver Spring.

Volunteers from the Senior Center’s Helping Hands group and elsewhere in the Rockville

area gather to sort and organize individual 6x9 rectangles that they later crochet into afghans. Nearly 2,300 rectangles were submitted to the project to create 63 afghans in February. Helping Hands members, as well as other vol-

unteers through the Senior Center, contributed 553 rectangles.

Once the afghans are finished, they are washed, folded in plastic with a thank you note. They are then delivered by volunteers to the hospital for distribution.

“My daughter and I became so inspired by the project that we took knitting classes so we can contribute to the project too,” said Chris Veirs, who organizes the Helping Hands group at the Senior Center.

For information on the “Handmade Afghans to Thank Our Armed Forces” project, use e-mail address Rectangle6x9@comcast.net. You will then receive information that link to photographs of the put-togethers and the finished afghans.

To date, 155 afghans have been delivered to Walter Reed. The Red Cross distributes them to the wounded soldiers and the response has been wonderful. The soldiers—men, women and their families—said they have been greatly comforted by the efforts of many and they are appreciative of the care and concern shown. **RR**



## Volunteer Time: Rockville FISH/HELP

There are many ways to share talent, experience, expertise and time with individuals or organizations by volunteering in the City. Each month “Volunteer Time” highlights a different opportunity to promote an interest in giving back to the community.

Sometimes people need a quick helping hand because they cannot afford life’s basic necessities. That’s where Rockville FISH/HELP steps in.

The all-volunteer, non-denominational faith-based organization provides emergency assistance to Rockville residents in need of emergency food or financial help with prescriptions or utility bills.

The group provides food to those who cannot afford it up to three times in a six-month period. Financial assistance ranges from \$75-\$100 per client, once each year for prescriptions or utility bills.

The need is great. In 2005, Rockville FISH/HELP distributed food to 473 families including 504 children within the City limits of Rockville. The organization also gave \$13,000 in emergency assistance and provided countless referrals to people who could be helped through other nonprofit organizations in Rockville.

“You would be surprised at the number of people in Rockville that don’t have enough food every day and enough help,” said a Twinbrook resident who is one of the organization’s volunteers.

Volunteers are needed to fill two roles in Rockville FISH/HELP. There are people who respond to phone messages throughout the day and there are those who pick up food at a central pantry to deliver a three-day supply of food to families in need.

All volunteers receive training and work from their own homes. No last names or phone numbers are used to preserve the volunteers’ privacy.

For more information, or to volunteer with the group, call 301-564-0800 and leave a message. **RR**

## Mattie J.T. Stepanek Foundation Launched

Together with several Rockville area residents, Jeni Stepanek, mother of Mattie J.T. Stepanek has launched a foundation in honor of her son, the 13-year-old poet and peace-maker for whom a new 26.2 park in the King Farm community is named.

The foundation is dedicated to furthering Mattie’s message of peace. Among its first projects, the foundation has taken on raising funds for a statue of Mattie and his service

dog, Micah, to be included in the new Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park in Rockville. First elements of the park are expected to open late this summer.

Jimilu Mason of Alexandria, Va., and Merano, Italy, has been selected as sculpture of the statue. His work has been exhibited throughout the world, including a marble bust of President Lyndon B. Johnson that is displayed in the Senate Wing of the U.S. Capitol Building.

In addition, the foundation plans to sponsor essay contests and award scholarships to students who share Mattie’s dreams for a more peaceful world.

The Rockville Mayor and Council named Rockville’s newest park for the poet and peacemaker who accomplished much in his short lifetime despite a long struggle with a rare muscular disease that also took the lives of his siblings. For the last three years of his life,

Mattie lived at King Farm with his mother, Jeni, who is battling an adult form of the same disease. Mattie counted Oprah Winfrey and President Jimmy Carter among his close friends. Mattie was a well-known figure patrolling the King Farm community in his wheelchair before his death in June 2004.

For more information, write to Mattie J. T. Stepanek King Farm Foundation, Box 111, 402 King Farm Boulevard, Rockville, Md. 20850 or e-mail robertbalkham@comcast.net. **RR**

TRC 11	THE ROCKVILLE CHANNEL APRIL PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE							✂ --- CLIP & SAVE ---	
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
12 Midnight	Planning Commission ▼	Historic District Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Historic District Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼		
6 a.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
6:30 a.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline		
7 a.m.	Responsible & Responsive	An Informed Citizenry	Responsible & Responsive	An Informed Citizenry	Responsible & Responsive	An Informed Citizenry	Responsible & Responsive		
7:30 a.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review		
8 a.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
8:30 a.m.	Historic District Commission ▼	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Mayor & Council ▼		
9 a.m.	▼	Budget Presentation	Diversity in the City: Latinos ▼	Budget Presentation	Diversity in the City: Latinos ▼	Budget Presentation	▼		
9:30 a.m.	▼	Turning the Corner on Town Center ▼	▼	Turning the Corner on Town Center ▼	▼	Turning the Corner on Town Center ▼	▼		
10 a.m.	▼	Red Light Green Light	Service Rockville!	Red Light Green Light	Service Rockville!	Red Light Green Light	▼		
10:30 a.m.	▼	Responsible & Responsive	An Informed Citizenry	Responsible & Responsive	An Informed Citizenry	Responsible & Responsive	▼		
11 a.m.	▼	Every 15 Minutes	Red Light Green Light	Every 15 Minutes	Red Light Green Light	Every 15 Minutes	Cityline		
11:30 a.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review		
12 noon	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
12:30 p.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline		
1 p.m.	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Historic District Commission ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼		
4 p.m.	Diversity in the City: Latinos ▼	▼	Rockville U: History & Trends ▼	Diversity in the City: Latinos ▼	▼	Rockville U: History & Trends ▼	▼		
4:30 p.m.	▼	Red Light Green Light	▼	▼	Red Light Green Light	▼	Red Light Green Light		
5 p.m.	Turning the Corner on Town Center	Service Rockville!	Turning the Corner on Town Center	Service Rockville!	Turning the Corner on Town Center	Service Rockville!	Turning the Corner on Town Center		
5:30 p.m.	An Informed Citizenry	Health Wise	An Informed Citizenry	Health Wise	An Informed Citizenry	Health Wise	An Informed Citizenry		
6 p.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
6:30 p.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review		
7 p.m.	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Budget Presentation	Planning Commission ▼	Budget Presentation	Mayor & Council ▼	Budget Presentation		
7:30 p.m.	▼	▼	Every 15 Minutes	▼	Every 15 Minutes	▼	Every 15 Minutes		
8 p.m.	▼	▼	Diversity in the City: Latinos ▼	▼	Diversity in the City: Latinos	Historic District Comm. (HDC) (3rd & 4th Thurs.)	Diversity in the City: Latinos ▼		
9 p.m.	▼	▼	Health Wise	▼	Health Wise		▼		
9:30 p.m.	▼	▼	Cityline	▼	Cityline		▼		
10 p.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
10:30 p.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review		
11 p.m.	Every 15 Minutes	An Informed Citizenry	Service Rockville!	Every 15 Minutes	Service Rockville!	Every 15 Minutes	Service Rockville!		
11:30p.m.	Turning the Corner on Town Center	Every 15 Minutes	Turning the Corner on Town Center	An Informed Citizenry	Turning the Corner on Town Center	An Informed Citizenry	Turning the Corner on Town Center		



**Mayor**  
LARRY GIAMMO  
**Councilmembers**  
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SUSAN R. HOFFMANN  
PHYLLIS MARCUCCIO  
ANNE M. ROBBINS

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Any individuals with disabilities who would like to receive the information in this publication in another form may contact the ADA Coordinator at 240-314-8100; TTY 240-314-8137.